

A+ Children's Academy Community School

Board Minutes

Governing Board Meeting

January 18, 2022

The regular meeting of the Governing Board of the A+ Children's Academy Community School was held on Tuesday, January 18, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 5:44 p.m. by Board President and Meeting Chairperson, Mrs. Ana Gantz.

The following Board Members responded to the roll call and were in attendance:

Mrs. Ana Gantz, Mrs. Patty King, Mrs. Sherry Kuehnle, Mr. Duane Miller

Also in Attendance:

Ms. Heather Wenger, Interim Director, Mrs. Gwen Dunn, Assistant Treasurer, Mrs. Lori Wood, Ohio Department of Education Representative, Ms. Sheila Vitale, Ohio Department of Education, Director of School Sponsorship, Dr. Chad Carr, ACCEL, Executive Vice President, Ms. Briana Bridgeman, Teacher, and Ms. Krista Jenkinson, Teacher

I. Roll Call

Four members of the Board responded to roll call.

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda of the board meeting was presented and reviewed by the board members. Mrs. Gantz requested a change to the agenda order moving Public Comments/Participation before the Presentation by ACCEL and adding personnel and contracts to purpose of the Executive Session. Mrs. Kuehnle motioned to approve the agenda with the changes suggested, and Mr. Miller seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion was voted by roll call and carried 4-0.

III. Approval of the Minutes of the November 8, 2021, Governing Regular Board Meeting, the Minutes of the November 22, 2021, Governing Board Special Meeting and the December 13, 2021, Governing Regular Board Meeting

Mrs. Kuehnle motioned to approve the minutes from the Monday, November 8, 2021, regular board meeting, the Monday, November 22, 2021, special board meeting and the Monday, December 13, 2021, regular board meeting. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion to approve the minutes was voted by roll call and carried 4-0.

IV. Public Comments/Participation

Two members of the public were in attendance. Mrs. Bridgeman expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to be present and for the work the Board has done over the last few years.

V. Presentation of ACCEL Schools

Dr. Chad Carr made a presentation to the Board after a site visit to the school in January and requested questions from the Board on the presentation and the Proposal for Partnership between A+ Children's Academy and ACCEL Schools. Questions were asked by Board members on how quickly a contract could begin, the length of a contract, the relationship between the Board and the management company, the relationship between independent treasurer and the management company, and retaining the original art emphasis of the school. Other questions asked by the public were whether teachers had to clock in and out, from whom staff would request paid time off, whether recently purchased curriculum would be used, would salaries and salary increases be based on assessments. Dr. Carr responded to each of the questions. Mrs. Gantz thanked Dr. Carr for his presentation.

VI. Executive Session

Mrs. Kuehnle made the motion for the Board to enter executive session for the purposes of personnel and contracts, and Mrs. King seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion was voted by roll call and carried 4-0. The Board members entered executive session at 6:58 p.m.

The Board returned from executive session at 7:46 p.m. with no action taken.

VII. Finance Committee Report

Mrs. Kuehnle informed the Board that the Finance Committee met prior to the meeting and reviewed the Treasurer's financial reports. She added the reports indicated no significant concerns at this time.

VIII. Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Dunn reported the January foundation payment was \$65,462.91 down from \$70,289.46 in December based on 103.03 FTEs also down from 106.20 FTEs. She added the school also received \$21,256.54 in Student Wellness and Success funding, \$22,774.56 in Special Education funding and \$23,070.22 in Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid.

Mrs. Dunn informed the Board the Ohio Auditor of State had released the audit for the fiscal year July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021, December 30, 2021, with no findings for recovery.

Mrs. Dunn also presented a Fund to Fund Transfer in the amount of \$150 to reduce the Title IIA fund to zero.

Mrs. Kuehnle motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report, and Mrs. King seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion was voted by roll call and carried 4-0.

IX. Superintendent's Report

A. Enrollment

K- 19

1- 13

2- 22

3- 20

4- 15

5- 9

Total- 98

Ms. Wenger stated no specific reasons were given by families for unenrolling students other than moving.

- B. Suspensions and Expulsions** – Ms. Wenger reported there was one suspension and no expulsions in December.
- C. Residency verification** – Ms. Wenger reported that five students had been selected for review.
- D. Third Grade Reading, OST Results** – Ms. Wenger presented the results of the Third Grade Reading testing provided in the Board members packets. She reported four 3rd graders had passed and several other students were close to passing and were expected to pass when tested in the spring.
- E. Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP) Consulting Contract** – Ms. Wenger presented the contract for Michael Ashmore to provide CCIP consulting services for the remainder of the school year.
- F. Resignation of Lily Schumer, Art Teacher** – Ms. Wenger reported the resignation of Lily Schumer effective January 25, 2022.
- G. Hiring of Kevin Duncan, Substitute Teacher** – Ms. Wenger reported Mr. Duncan had applied for his substitute license and would be available on an as needed basis.
- H. Keisha Nations, Substitute Teacher for First Grade** – Ms. Wenger explained that Ms. Nations has been substitute teaching since the first-grade teacher resigned. She requested a stipend of \$54/day be provided Ms. Nations for each day she substitutes until a replacement for the open position is filled.
- I. Stipends for Teachers and Licensed Staff for Substitute Teacher** – Ms. Wenger asked the Board if stipends would be provided to teachers who substituted in in another class. After discussion, no action was taken to provide additional compensation.
- J. Stipend for Brianna Bridgeman** – Ms. Wenger requested the payment of a \$500 stipend to Brianna Bridgeman for going above and beyond over the last 3 months to be paid in the January 20, 2022, payroll.
- K. Renewal of the Ohio Community School Contract** – Ms. Wenger reported the contract with the Department of Education Office of School Sponsorship has been forwarded to the school's attorney for review.

X. Request To be Added to the Agenda

Mrs. Gantz informed the Board that Dr. Sams has requested to be included on the agenda at the next meeting to discuss the future of the school.

XI. Consent Agenda

- A. Be it Resolved** that the Board accepts the resignation of Lily Schumer, Art Teacher, effective January 25, 2022.

- B. Be it Resolved that the Board approves the hiring of Kevin Duncan, Substitute Teacher, as needed at the rate of \$125 per day for the 2021-2022 school year.
- C. Be it Resolved that the Board approves the stipend for Keisha Nations in the amount of \$54 per day as a substitute teacher effective retroactively to November 22, 2022.
- D. Be it Resolved that the Board approves the stipend for Brianna Bridgeman in the amount of \$500 for going above and beyond to be paid in the January 20th payroll.
- E. Be it Resolved that the Board approves the contract for Alesia Weber, Administrative Assistant.
- F. Be it Resolved that the Board approves the Fund to Fund transfer in the amount of \$150 from the General Fund to the Title IIA.
- G. Be it Resolved that the Board approves entering into a contract with the Ohio Board of Education, Office of School Sponsorship once approved by counsel.
- H. Be it Resolved that the Board approves the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP) Consulting Contract with Michael Ashmore.
- I. Be it Resolved that the Board approves pursuing a relationship with ACCEL Schools.

Action by the Governing Board in “Adoption of the Consent Agenda” at this point of the agenda means all items above constitute the Consent Agenda and are adopted by one single motion unless a member of the Board or the Superintendent requests that such items be removed from the Consent Agenda and are voted upon separately or are tabled.

Ms. Wenger requested the retroactive effective date for Ms. Nations stipend be amended in Item C. Mrs. Gantz requested the revision of the wording of Item to read entering into a contract, the addition of Item H to approve the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP) Consulting Contract with Michael Ashmore and Item I to approve pursuing a relationship with ACCEL Schools. Mr. Miller motioned the acceptance of the Consent Agenda with the revisions and additions requested, and Mrs. King seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion was voted by roll call, and carried 4-0.

XII. ODE Representative Presentation

- A. The Education Survey – Mrs. Wood informed the Board that the Education Plan review under the monitoring tile is now open, and the Ohio Department of Education has asked that it be completed by the end of February. The survey includes an Academic Data Review Form which has been sent to the Interim Director and is intended to better track academic progress and assessments. She will schedule a time to review the form with Ms. Wenger.
- B. After School Enrichment Savings Program - Mrs. Wood reported the Governor had signed an executive order to offer an after school enrichment savings program for families who fall below 300% of the poverty level. She reported qualified families would receive the funds to use for tutoring, music lessons, study skills and day camps. She further explained to receive the funds, families will need to set up a SAFE account and suggested providing families assistance to set up the accounts to access these funds.
- C. Special Education File Review - Mrs. Wood informed the Board that the Special Education review would occur in February and schools will be provided access to Google Drive to upload documents. A follow up meeting will be scheduled, she explained, to review the forms and procedures and to provide support and feedback to the school to meet all the indicators.

- D. Meeting with the Teachers - Mrs. Wood noted she did attend the meeting with two Board members and the teachers the previous week and was able to share information that pertained to the teachers' concerns. She believed the meeting went well.
- E. Intervention Specialist Assistance – Mrs. Wood reported she was working with the school's intervention specialist to offer assistance in a situation with a student.
- F. Free COVID Tests – Mrs. Wood suggested sharing with families that each family can now receive four free rapid COVID tests shipped to their home by registering at a USPS website.

XIII. Next Regular Board Meeting, Monday, March 14, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

Mrs. Gantz asked if the board members thought it necessary to add a meeting in February to discuss pending business.

XIV. ACCEL Schools Contract

Mrs. Kuenhle motioned to give the Board President, Mrs. Gantz and the Interim Director, Ms. Wenger, the authority to enter into a contract with ACCEL Schools for the remainder of this school year. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion was voted by roll call and carried 4-0.

XV. Adjournment

Mrs. King motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Mrs. Kuenhle seconded the motion. With no discussion, the motion was voted by roll call and carried 4-0.

Adjournment at 8:17 p.m.